

South Bend, to be called to her reward, therefore be it

Resolved, That the S. S. C. E. sadly deplore the loss we sustain through the death of one so good and faithful.

Resolved, That we cherish her memory, and that we imitate her meek and quiet spirit and that we also be ready.

Resolved, That we show our heartfelt sympathy, by word and deed, to the bereaved husband and children in this dark hour of sorrow.

Resolved, That since God doeth all things well, that we "pass under the rod" in humble submission and say "Thy will be done."

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the record of this society, and a copy of the same be sent to the family of our deceased sister, and a copy of said resolutions be sent to the EVANGELIST.

BARBARA CALVERT,
FANNY MILLER,
HETTIE SHOLLY. } Com.

King's Children.

TRUE FRIENDSHIP.

[Read at the Lanark King's Children Feb. 2, 1895, by Mrs. Ida Arnold.]

As we pass through this world we may imagine we are independent creatures, we may possess houses and lands, and silver and gold, and yet there are many times when one is very dependent, in case of trials, troubles and sorrows, sickness and death or in any great calamity. At such times how eager we are to find a friend to help us, to encourage us, to strengthen us, and sympathize with us. We are only too glad to find one upon whom we can depend for comfort and consolation in the dark hours of our existence, for there are gloomy days in the life of us all. How thankful we are to possess a friend upon whose words and advice we can rely with safety. How grateful we are to have him to whom we can go and talk over with, the trying things ever coming to us. How true it is that a friend in need is a friend indeed. It is no hard task to find friends as long as all goes well, while the days are bright and full of sunshine, while cares do not overwhelm us and while money and health remain with us. But oft, too oft, when all these are gone, our supposedly true friends are fled, too ready to search for others who can more readily be to them what they desire, while we are left to sit and meditate and ponder upon the treachery of such assumed friendship. How we should prize a friend who has been tried and found true, who has been weighed in the balance and not found wanting.

What grand lessons we could learn e'en from the faithful dog who stands by his beloved master till death and e'en mourns o'er his kind friend's grave.

How little we think what friendship is. Kind, lovely and friendly at one time and the reverse at another time is too much the way we often are. But what is there in such friendship? What true enjoyment do we realize from this and what benefit is it to another?

How much good our real, true friends do us, and how much they help us. They not only commend us when we have done well, but chide us when in the wrong; but generally those who pretend to be our friends tell us of our good traits, and mention our faults and failings to others. In this respect quite frequently our enemies come nearer doing us good for they are not afraid to inform us of our shortcomings. Usually such facts revealed hurt us, but if the shoe fits, we must wear it, and it often results in bringing good to us after all.

From observing the good qualities of our true companions, many beautiful lessons may be learned; those of kindness, thoughtfulness, usefulness, unselfishness, patience and many others.

A husband, whose wife was always so patient and uncomplaining has said he has learned a lesson from her, and although she has lately been snatched from his presence and been carried to realms of bliss, leaving his heart broken and his home desolate, is now in his sorrow endeavoring, too, to be as patient and free from murmuring as was his lovely companion who is now enjoying supreme rest. Thus after death the true friend lives.

While we may greatly admire the lovely character of our friends with us, we will more deeply cherish the grand dispositions they possessed when once they are gone, and we are left to think of their beautiful and truthful ways they always had while with us.

There is something wrong if we do not have friends. Let us have them, but be careful how and where we select them. Let us guard that as in choosing a good book, and once having found a true friend let us stand by him in all that is right until the end and after death the memory of them will e'er be cherished and life will not have been in vain.

SKEPTICS tell us that we dishonor God when we say that he requires such an unreasonable thing as faith in one we do not know. But God never requires faith when it is unreasonable to expect it. For example, He does not require it of babes or idiots.—*Bible Reader*.

INFLUENCE.

[Read at the Tiosa King's Children by Mattie Wallace.]

The meaning of this as I understand it is a directing power. And this power lies within the reach of every person. It is derived from the circumstances which surround us.

Influence is either good or bad, according to the views of the persons by whom it is exerted.

Good influence is exerted by persons having a noble mind, and has a tendency to elevate and not to degrade.

Such influence should be accepted as a precious gift by every person receiving it. While that which is exerted by persons of a low mind is degrading and in no way beneficial. Such persons should be shunned by all.

If they are your associates you should use all your power to have them depart from their errors. When you have used all the means within your power, and that without accomplishing any good, you should leave them, the sooner the better. Home influence is one of the most essential. It is either a blessing or a curse. Either for good or for evil. In either case it is mighty commencing with our birth and going with us through life and reaching into the eternal world.

Every human being is a center of influence, either for good or for evil. We may forget this secret, silent influence but we are exerting it by our deeds; we are exerting it by our words; we are exerting it by our every thought. And he is wise who seeks to put forth highest and most noble power for good, be his house a hut or a hall, a cabin or a palace.

OUR SHEPHERD.

"Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." We heard recently a very pretty oriental illustration of this figure. As the shepherd leads his flocks through the narrow defiles of the mountain, he often comes to narrow chasms which must be leaped, and often the roadway is but a footpath in which the sheep can only pass one by one, just as in leaping the chasm. The shepherd going ahead is often lost to the sight of the sheep, but to comfort them he strikes his staff or crook against the rocks on either hand as he passes along. The sound is taken up and goes echoing and re-echoing through the defile, and every sheep hears it and knows where the shepherd is. So Christ is walking on before us, perhaps just out of sight, but if we listen we may hear his voice or the sound of his staff, and be comforted.—*Congregationalist*.